



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
LAW DEPARTMENT**

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September 10, 2024

Via ECF

Magistrate Judge Stewart D. Aaron
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
40 Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Re: Williams, Jr. v. City of New York et al
Civil Action No.: 23-cv-02700-JPO-SDA

Your Honor:

I am an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Office of Hon. Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, Corporation Counsel of the City of New York, attorney for Defendants the above-referenced matter. I write to respectfully request a 45-day extension to respond to the Amended Complaint (ECF No. 7) and a request to adjourn the Initial Pretrial Conference (Scheduling Order, ECF No. 46) scheduled for October 23, 2024 by 45 days. Because Plaintiff is incarcerated, this Office was unable to obtain his consent to these requests.

Presently, Defendants' response to the Complaint is due by September 11, 2024. I respectfully request the Court extend that deadline by 45 days or to October 26, 2024. Plaintiff Alexander Williams Jr. has reached out in the first instance to the undersigned following the issuance of Judge Oetken's Opinion and Order (ECF No. 45) on Defendant's Motion to Dismiss and has evinced an interest in exploring the possibility of settlement with the undersigned. The additional time is necessary to confer with the DOC on this, further investigate the Complaint's allegations, explore the possibility of settlement with Mr. Williams, Jr., if appropriate, and prepare a full and adequate response.

This is Defendants' first request for an extension to answer to the Complaint. While there is currently an Initial Pretrial Conference scheduled for October 23, 2024, there will be little to no negative impact on the litigation of this matter, nor will there be any prejudice to the Plaintiff in granting this request as the parties both have stated an interest in exploring the possibility of settlement. Defendants further request that the Initial Pretrial Conference be adjourned by the same 45-day extension or December 9, 2024 in order to allow the parties to attempt to settle Plaintiff's claims without further Court intervention at this time.

Defendants thank the Court for its consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Bryn Ritchie
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